

ANASIEZE IKENNA – CLOUD & AI ENGINEER

Project: Cloud SQL Data Pipeline & Analytics Project

Overview

This guide provides a comprehensive walkthrough of a cloud-native data engineering project built on Google Cloud Platform (GCP).

For technical teams: Detailed commands, code snippets, and architectural diagrams.

For non-technical teams: Business context, impact analysis, and visual workflows.

Business Problem

Airlines and transportation agencies need to analyze flight performance, delays, and operational efficiency across 300,000+ flight records to optimize routes, reduce costs, and improve passenger experience.

Technical Solution

A scalable ETL pipeline that:

1. Extracts flight data from public sources.
2. Transforms and loads it into Cloud SQL (PostgreSQL).
3. Analyses data using SQL to generate actionable insights.

Architecture Diagram

[Cloud Storage: Raw CSV Files]



[Cloud SQL: Data warehouse]



[SQL Analytics: Query]



[Dashboards & Reports]

Step-by-Step Setup

⇒ Prerequisites

- Google Cloud Platform account
- Basic knowledge of SQL and command line
- Access to Cloud Shell

⇒ Environment Setup

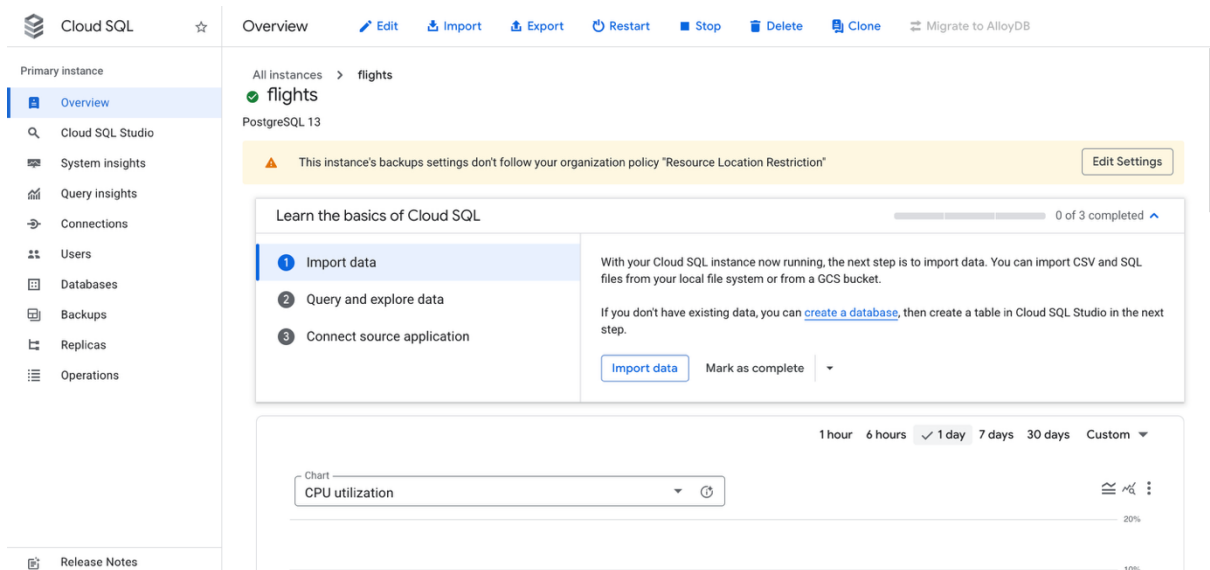
Step 1: Launch Cloud Shell

1. Log into [Google Cloud Console](<https://console.cloud.google.com>).

2. Click the Cloud Shell icon.

Step 2: Create Cloud SQL Instance

```
```bash
gcloud sql instances create flights \
 --database-version=POSTGRES_13 \
 --cpu=2 \
 --memory=8GiB \
 --region=us-central1 \
 --root-password="Your secure password"
```
```



Non-Technical Explanation:

This command provisions a managed PostgreSQL database with 2 CPUs and 8GB RAM, located in Iowa (us-central1). It's like renting a secure, scalable database server in the cloud.

Step 3: Prepare Cloud Storage

```
```bash
Create a unique bucket for data files
export PROJECT_ID=$(gcloud info --format='value(config.project)')
export BUCKET=${PROJECT_ID}-flight-data
```
```

Non-Technical Explanation:

Creates a cloud storage folder (bucket) to hold raw flight data files.

⇒ **ETL Pipeline Development**

Data Extraction

For Technical Teams

```
```bash
Download flight data
wget https://sampleflightdata/nycflights13.csv
```

```
Upload to Cloud Storage
gsutil cp nycflights13.csv gs://$BUCKET
```
```

For Non-Technical Teams

- Data is sourced from the US Bureau of Transportation Statistics.
- Files are automatically transferred to secure cloud storage.

⇒ Data Loading into Database




Step 1: Create Table Schema

Technical Code:

```
```sql
-- create_table.sql
CREATE TABLE flights (
 "Year" TEXT,
 "Quarter" TEXT,
 "Month" TEXT,
);
```
```

Step 2: Import Data

```
```bash
Import CSV into PostgreSQL
gcloud sql import csv flights \
gs://$BUCKET/nycflights13.csv \
--database=postgres \
--table=flights
```
```

| | | |
|---|--|------------------|
|  | Importing from 201501.csv to flights | 0 min 19 sec |
|  | Imported from create_table.sql to flights | 3:21:47 PM GMT-3 |
|  | Edited flights . | 3:17:53 PM GMT-3 |

Non-Technical Explanation:

This step loads the flight records into the database table, similar to importing a spreadsheet into a more powerful analysis tool.

⇒ Database Analytics

Key Business Queries

Query 1: Top 3 Busiest Airports

```
```sql
SELECT "Origin", COUNT() AS num_flights
FROM flights
GROUP BY "Origin"
ORDER BY num_flights DESC
LIMIT 3;
```
```

Output:

| Origin | Num_flights |
|--------|-------------|
| ATL | 29,512 |
| ORD | 23,484 |
| DFW | 23,153 |

```
Connecting to database with SQL user [postgres].Password:
psql (16.11 (Ubuntu 16.11-1.pgdg24.04+1), server 13.23)
SSL connection (protocol: TLSv1.3, cipher: TLS_AES_256_GCM_SHA384, compression: off)
Type "help" for help.

postgres=> \c bts;
Password:
psql (16.11 (Ubuntu 16.11-1.pgdg24.04+1), server 13.23)
SSL connection (protocol: TLSv1.3, cipher: TLS_AES_256_GCM_SHA384, compression: off)
You are now connected to database "bts" as user "postgres".
bts=> SELECT "Origin", COUNT(*) AS num_flights
FROM flights GROUP BY "Origin"
ORDER BY num_flights DESC
LIMIT 5;
 origin | num_flights
-----+-----
 ATL   |      29512
 ORD   |      23484
 DFW   |      23153
 LAX   |      17340
 DEN   |      17090
(5 rows)

bts=> █
```

Query 2: Average Delay by Airline

```
```sql
SELECT "Reporting_Airline",
 AVG("DepDelayMinutes") AS avg_delay
FROM flights
GROUP BY "Reporting_Airline"
ORDER BY avg_delay DESC;
```
```

Business Insight: Identifies airlines with frequent delays for operational reviews.

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